

13 Jan 83

Notes on a conversation w [redacted] re  
COC:

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- 1- Centralizing review cut response time (from time in to time out) to about one-third of what it used to be.
- 2- COC FOI/PA/MR backlog is about 500. Total backlog is about 3,000. This includes cases out for coordination w other agencies, copying and sending out copies to requesters of finished cases, some being processed in, etc.
- 3- Estimates the average time to answer an FOI case is five months, from time in to time out. With more people they could probably bring this down to about two months.

- 4- Centralizing the review has improved consistency tremendously. In fact, [redacted] is more worried about material released before the review was centralized because the desk people, in many instances, did not know what they were doing, they were not conversant with the E.O. directives, etc. on declassification review, etc.

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5- (see over)

Re Air Force far east history in talking w DOD historian, officer [redacted] had to back off from total withholding of the history. Will excuse some things and write a disclaimer.

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5 - [ ] pointed out that CDC reviewers make appointments and talk directly with the desk officer on specific questions concerning classification/declassification. They normally discuss a sampling of material in a given case and then the CDC reviewer does the entire review himself. In a particularly sensitive case, all the documents may be discussed. In some cases, about 80% of the time, CDC can handle the case alone.